

Serial No.: 09/887,587

REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are now pending in the application. Claim 1 has been amended herein, and claims 12-14 have been newly added. Favorable reconsideration of the application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

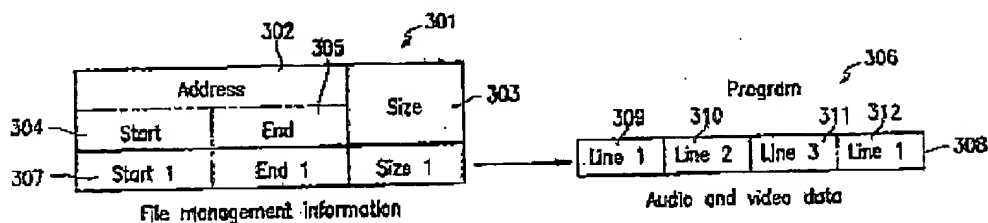
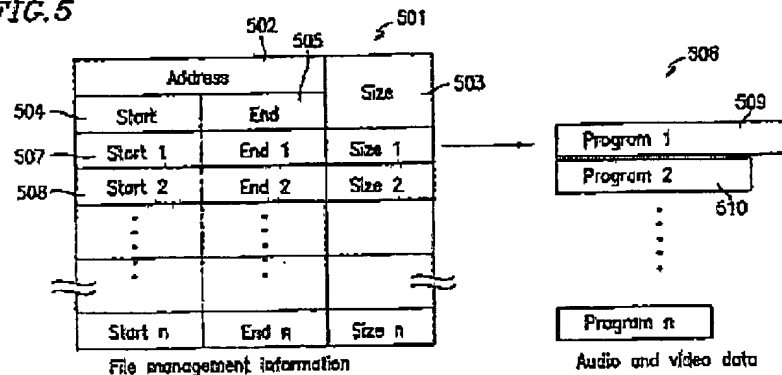
I. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 1-9 UNDER 35 USC §102(b)

Claims 1-9 stand rejected under 35 USC §102(b) based on *Kono et al.* Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 refers to an audio and video recording reproduction apparatus in which audio and video signals from second and third inputs, respectively, are recorded on the information recording medium as one recording unit when the input switching device switches from the second input to the third input signal. (See, e.g., editing mode as represented in Figs. 2 and 3 of the present application). Claim 5 defines how in the event of switching between a first input signal and the second input signal (e.g., between a first television signal and a line in signal, or between a first television signal and a second television signal), the input signals are recorded as different recording units. (See, e.g., operation with respect to Figs. 4 and 5 of the present application).

As is described in the present application, a "recording unit" refers to a unit of audio and video information used in managing audio and video information during reproduction of recorded audio and video information. (See, e.g. Spec., p. 1, Ins. 14-17). In an effort to make such aspect even more specific, applicants have amended claim 1 to recite how such "recording unit" includes file management information including a size of the recorded information.

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FIG. 3**FIG. 5**

Figs. 3 & 5 (Present Invention)

Figs. 3 and 5 of the present application (reproduced above) together with the discussion on page 9, lines 17-30 of the specification provide support for such amendment to claim 1. Specifically, Figs. 3 and 5 illustrate how the recording unit in claim 1 includes file management information comprising the size of the recorded information. (See, e.g., Size 1, ... Size n).

Claim 1 emphasizes how the file management information in a recording unit includes the size of the recorded information. As is represented in Fig. 3, the audio and video signals before and after the switching are recorded on the information recording medium as one recording unit including size information. Fig. 5 illustrates how audio and video signals before and after the switching may be recorded on the information

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recording medium as different recording units including size information. Moreover, Figs. 3 and 5 illustrate how the file management information may include multiple start/stop addresses of the recorded information and multiple size entries as recited in new claims 12-14.

Kono et al. deals with a multiprogram video tape recording and reproducing device. *Kono et al.* describes a number of embodiments of video tape recorders which include mixing means for producing a mixed recording signal responsive to a plurality of generated recording signals; and separating means for reproducing a selected recording signal from the mixed recording signal. *Kono et al.* describes recording an identification signal in the recording video signal to identify the start of a multiple recording portion. (See, e.g., Col. 14, Ins. 44-53). *Kono et al.* also describes keeping track of addressing in a digital memory in order to facilitate recording of the multiple signals. (See, e.g., Col. 17, Ins. 8-15).

As a practical matter, the teachings of *Kono et al.* have very little to do with the subject matter of the present invention. Namely, the recording of an identification signal in the recording video signal to identify the start of a multiple recording portion is unrelated to input switching as recited in claim 1. However, the Examiner apparently interprets one "recording unit" in claim 1 as the feature of recording the multiple input signals via mixing as described in *Kono et al.*

In order to better clarify the distinctions between the present invention and *Kono et al.*, claim 1 now recites how the recording unit includes file management information including the size of the recorded information. *Kono et al.* does not teach or suggest providing any type of single or multiple recording units including file management information including the size of the recorded information as recited in amended claim 1. Nor would it have been obvious to modify *Kono et al.* to include such size information as *Kono et al.* is merely concerned with providing a mixing means whereby a mixed recording signal is responsive to a plurality of recording signals. *Kono et al.* simply is not concerned with size of the recorded information in such context, and thus does not record recording unit information as recited in amended claim 1.

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For at least the above reasons, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1 and the claims dependent therefrom.

II. REJECTION OF CLAIMS 10-11 UNDER 35 USC §103(a)

Remaining claims 10-11 stand rejected under 35 USC §103(a) based on *Kono et al.* in view of *Official Notice*.

Claims 10-11 depend from claim 1 either directly or indirectly, and can be distinguished over *Kono et al.* for at least the same reasons discussed above. *Official Notice* does not make up for the deficiencies in *Kono et al.* As a result, applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

III. CONCLUSION

New claims 12-14 refer to additional distinctions between the present invention and the cited art.

Accordingly, all claims 1-14 are believed to be allowable and the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. A prompt action to such end is earnestly solicited.

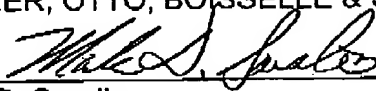
Should the Examiner feel that a telephone interview would be helpful to facilitate favorable prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number provided below.

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Should a petition for an extension of time be necessary for the timely reply to the outstanding Office Action (or if such a petition has been made and an additional extension is necessary), petition is hereby made and the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees (including additional claim fees) to Deposit Account No. 18-0988.

Respectfully submitted,

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DATE: January 19, 2006

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